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Senate

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m., and was called to order by the Honorable BYRON L. DORGAN, a Senator from the State of North Dakota.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Rev. James A. Scudder of Quentin Road Bible Baptist Church in Lake Zurich, IL.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

Dear Heavenly Father, sovereign of our Nation and our personal friend in time of trouble, we come before You with much gratitude for Your bountiful mercy. You are the governor of the universe and You are supremely good. Therefore, the laws You have promulgated must be the expression of a nature infinitely good.

What the terrorists have done is infinitely bad and cannot come from an infinitely good God. Your great goodness and providential loving care have been seen and understood, especially in the midst of a great turmoil our Nation has faced recently. Bestow power to these women and men of the Senate as they seek Your help in silent strength for the difficulties and pressures we are facing as a nation.

Psalms tell us that blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. And so, Lord, we are blessed that You are our God. These Senators also bless our Nation with their leadership, and we thank You for each man and woman here. Like never before, we beseech You for Your holy strength. We ask for Your mighty hand of power and for Your divine wisdom to assist these Senators as they lead our Nation. Give them the clarity of thought they need to make their many decisions. Give them guidance and help today. Grant them courage for such a time as this. In the name of Your son, Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable BYRON DORGAN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 28, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BYRON L. DORGAN, a Senator from the State of North Dakota, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. DORGAN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Illinois, Mr. FITZGERALD, is recognized.

THANKING REVEREND JAMES A. SCUDDER

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. President, I thank and acknowledge the invocation by Dr. James A. Scudder, the Pastor of Quentin Road Bible Baptist Church in Lake Zurich, IL. Reverend Scudder is one of my distinguished constituents from the State of Illinois. I have appeared before his congregation and I have known him for many years. I appreciate his friendship, and we are all eternally grateful for his being here this morning and giving the prayer.

Dr. Scudder is somewhat nationally known. He has a national television show that appears once a week on WGN-TV. He is an outstanding guest

Chaplain for us to have today. I thank Dr. Scudder on behalf of the State of Illinois and the country for being here today.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate will be in a period of morning business very shortly, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

At 11 o'clock, we will resume consideration of the election reform bill. As Senators know, cloture was filed yesterday. Therefore, all first-degree amendments are to be filed prior to 1 p.m. today.

Mr. President, once you announce our being in morning business, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I thank the Chair.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business for not to extend beyond the hour of 11 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes.

Under the previous order, the Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. REID. I thank the Chair.

Mr. WELLSTONE. May I ask the Senator a question first? Other Senators are here. There are three or four of us on the floor, which would be a little over 30 minutes. I wonder if we can modify that request.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I think we are going to have a lot of time for

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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